

Stella Wolak

Provided by Athabasca Community Chapel -
(780) 675-3996

July 7, 1926 ~ February 18, 2011 (age 84)



Services

A service summary is not available

Stella Wolak

July 7, 1926 - February 18, 2011

It is with great sadness that the family of Stella Wolak of Athabasca, Alberta announces her passing at the age of 84 years.

On June 3, 1932, Stella (then 6 years old), her mother Veronica, and 2 brothers, Michael and John, arrived in Canada. The trip across the Atlantic and the long train ride across Canada brought them to the small town of Athabasca. They then crossed the Athabasca River and walked the 28 miles to Pleasant View, where they joined her father who had traveled there 5 years earlier to start a better life for his family. Her sister Mary, was born in August of 1935. Stella remembered that it was very hard work but they were very happy.

In 1951, Stella married Sebastian Wolak. They were the first couple to be married in the newly built St. Clements Church in Pleasant View. Stella and Sebastian had a mixed farm, growing grains, hogs, chickens and milking cows. Sebastian had to work off the farm a lot, which left Stella to hold down the fort.

After 25 years of farming, they moved into Athabasca in 1976. Stella worked part time at Blunts nursing home (now Extendicare).

She spent a lot of time taking care of her garden and flower beds, which she loved so much. The gardens and flowers were her pride and joy, she was very proud of her yard.

Spending time with her family meant the world to her. The visits, phone calls, the camping trips, birthday parties, etc. were always special to her. She cherished every moment.

Stella will be greatly missed by her loving husband of 60 years, Sebastian, 2 sons and 3 daughters: Marion (Linda) Wolak of Athabasca, Philip Wolak of Edmonton, Grace Bourque of Athabasca, Bertha (Les) Botten of Boyle, Marcia (Greg) Woytovicz of Athabasca; 13 grandchildren: Vance, Gregory, Jennifer, Christopher, Melissa, Marty (Cheryl), Daryl, Kevin, Jeffrey, Jason (Jennifer), Robyn (Mike), Derrick (Charmaine), and Tyler. 3 great-grandchildren: Donavon, Brandon, Alana and Zachery; sister Mary Shewchuk of Mayerthorpe; sister in law, Anne Melynk of High Prairie.

Stella was predeceased by her son, Richard Wolak; brothers: John and Mike Irla; and her parents Michael and Veronica Irla.

A prayer service was held on Wednesday, February 23, 2011 at 7:00pm at Athabasca Community Chapel. Mass of Christian Burial was held on Thursday, February 24, 2011, at 11:00am at St. Gabriels Roman Catholic Church with interment following in the Athabasca Cemetery. Father Limneo Zamora oficiated.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Pleasant Valley Lodge.